(c) what precautionary measures Government are considering to ensure safety of railway and security personnel, and

(d) what steps Government have taken to strengthen the IB Department?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHR! S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railway officials and a representative of railway contractor escorted by Railway Police Security Force (RPSF) personnel were ambushed by militants on 6th October, 2006 on a place called Mitta Disa Basti on Lumding-Langting Road under Maibong Police Station, N.C. Hills district. The ambush and subsequent heavy fire from automatic weapons resulted in the death of 11 persons and serious injuries to 3 persons.

(c) On assessment of the ground situation and in consultation with the Railways, it was decided by the State Government to adopt a two pronged strategy consisting of static duty at the work sites and area domination all along the project. Five companies of the security forces have been deployed at the work sites. They are domination by the security forces is also on.

(d) The Central Govt, has advised the Govt, of Assam to strengthen the security and intelligence in the area for safety and security of the railway employees.

Modernisation of Police Force in Bihar

†1586. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Bihar Government has sent any proposal to the Central Government for modernization of the State police force;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the efforts being made by the Central Government to equip State police force with the modern weapons and modern communication equipments, to enable it to deal with the Naxalite/Maoist and extremists violence; and

(d) whether Government are paying special attention towards those States, where law enforcing machinery is not able to deal with those elements?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Under the Central Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme), the outlay for Bihar for 2006-07 has been fixed at Rs. 48.00 crore, which includes Central grant of Rs. 36.00 crore. Central assistance of Rs. 33.87 crore has already been released to Government of Bihar for critical components of police infrastructure such as construction of secure police stations, outposts, police lines, modern weaponry, police housing, etc.

(c) and (d) Although Police is a State subject as per Vllth Schedule of the Constitution, the Central Government extends special assistance to naxal affected States, through Central initiatives such as Security Related Expenditure Scheme and MPF Scheme. The MPF scheme includes a special component for strengthening the police infrastructure in the naxal affected districts to the tune of Rs. 2.00 crore per affected district per year initially for a period of 5 years. A substantial number of mine protected vehicles, modern weaponry and security equipments have also been provided to the naxal affected States. Emphasis is laid on construction of secure police stations and outposts.

Persons killed in naxal attacks

†1587. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed and injured in Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh. Orissa, Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal due to naxalite activities, from January, 2006-07 till date, giving the State-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of naxalites killed and arrested in the above States during the same period, State-wise; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the naxalite trends have increased because of *laissez faire* of the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The State-wise details of civilians arid police personnel killed due to naxalite violence during 2006 (till November 30) are as under:--

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.